

Carlos Antencio
PO Box 224
Walden, CO 80480
970-420-1195

Congresswoman Lauren Boebert
1713 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

18th of March 2023

Dear Ms. Boebert,

My name is Carlos Atencio and as a lifelong Colorado native, outdoorsman, and rancher/working cowboy, I have a firsthand account of the brutality of nature. I know folks in my industry are at the mercy of things well beyond our control. Whether it's winter storms that will leave little calves frozen to death or predators looking for an easy meal, rural families have to be resilient.

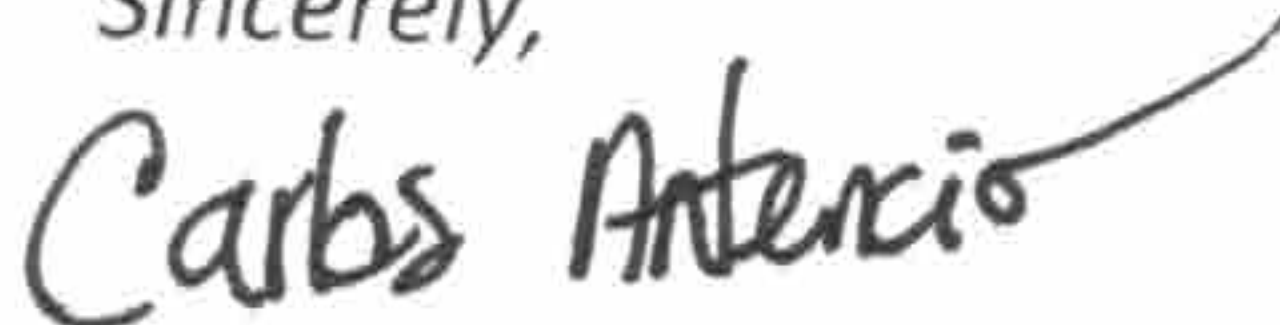
In December of 2021, our rescue dog "Scooby Do" had his stomach ripped open and was left for dead. On Jan.9th of 2022, my working cattle dog and pet "Buster" was killed in the same manner. His partner, Izzy, managed to escape with injuries. After a CPW investigation, both dogs were confirmed killed by a pack of wolves that migrated into our area from Wyoming. Both dogs were killed yards from the very house my young son played at.

I accept the fact that my dogs were a casualty of living out on a ranch and all that entails. I've also accepted the fact that living with wolves is going to be the new norm for rural Colorado residents. The hard pill for me to swallow is how the lives and livelihoods of folks who feed Americans are being dictated by people who live miles from where these predators are soon to be released. An even tougher pill is how our hands are being tied by politicians who bow to big money environmental groups who further their political interests.

Jackson county has become the testing grounds for how wolves will impact rural Colorado. So far, it has proven that a pack of wolves left unchecked will kill at will, and will kill indiscriminately.

Those that are placed in charge of the management of these apex predators offer non lethal alternatives to keep these wolves in check but thus far, have proven ineffective at protecting our animals. How much longer do they expect us to watch our beloved animals being killed? I ask that we be allowed to lethally intervene and protect our pets and livestock when these attacks occur. I ask that you, Ms. Boebert, continue to stand and voice the concerns of rural Colorado residents to those who have complete disregard for our way of life.

Sincerely,



Carlos Atencio